

# GLOSSARY

Structure in brackets indicates part to which the term applies.

**Abortive** [fruit] Not developed completely.

**Alternate** [arrangement of leaves or buds] Not opposite on sides of twig.

**Awl-shaped** [leaf] Narrow and tapering to a sharp point.

**Basal disc** [fruit] A plate-like structure on the base of a fruit.

**Bloom** A whitish covering; usually on new shoot growth or fruit.

**Bract** A leaf-like structure which is attached to a flower, a fruit, or to its stalk.

**Branchlet** Shoot growth of the latest growing season.

**Bur** [fruit] A prickly or spiny husk enclosing the seed.

**Capsule** [fruit] A dry fruit enclosing more than one seed and splitting freely at maturity.

**Catkin** A compact, cylindrical cluster of flowers of the same sex.

**Chambered** [pith] With hollow cavities separated by discs or plates.

**Compound** [leaf] A leaf composed of smaller leaf units or leaflets.

**Conical** Wide at the base and gradually tapering to a point; circular in cross section.

**Conifer** Cone bearing trees; the "evergreens."

**Cordate** [leaf] Heart-shaped at the petiole end or base.

**Cup** [fruit] The scaled, concave basal portion of oak fruit.

**Cyme** A flattened flowering structure, center flowers bloom earliest.

**Deciduous** [leaves] All leaves drop in the autumn; not evergreen.

**Diaphragmed** [pith] Solid but divided into sections by firmer discs.

**Drupe** [fruit] Fleshy outside, hard and stone-like inside.

**Ellipsoid** Tapers equally at both ends; more than twice as long as broad.

**Elliptical** Like an ellipse; flat and tapering equally at both ends.

**Entire** [leaf] Margin of leaf without teeth, lobes, or divisions.

**Fascicle** [leaf] A cluster of conifer leaves.

**Fluted** [stem] With alternating, rounded depressions and ridges; sinuate.

**Fruit** The seed-bearing part of a tree.

**Glands** Generally raised structures at the tips of hairs, or on a leaf, petiole, or twig.

**Globose** Spherical or globe-shaped.

**Habitat** The place where a plant usually grows, e.g. rocky, moist, well-drained, etc.

**Hardwood** - Term used to describe all broadleaved trees. These tree species are deciduous, retaining their leaves only one growing season. Despite the term, some "hardwoods," such as the aspens, have wood that is relatively soft.

**Head** A compact aggregate of flowers or fruit on a common stalk.

**Husk** [fruit] The somewhat leathery, outer covering of a fruit sometimes capable of splitting along well-defined lines.

**Lance-shaped** Long and tapering; several times longer than broad; broadest at the base.

**Leaf** Stalk and blade of hardwoods; needles and scales of conifers.

**Leaflets** Smaller leaf units or leaflets which together form a compound leaf.

**Lenticel** [bark] Corky, raised pores on woody parts with openings for air-gas exchange.

**Linear** [leaf] Much longer than broad with parallel margins.

**Lobed** [leaf] With large, rounded or pointed projections along the leaf-margin. Projection formed by indentations of the leaf margin.

**Margin** [leaf] The edge, perimeter, or portion forming the outline.

**Midrib** [leaf] The large central vein.

**Oblong** Longer than wide with nearly parallel sides.

**Obovate** Egg-shaped in outline; broadest above the middle.

**Opposite** [arrangement of leaves or buds] Directly across from one another on a common axis, or twig.

**Oval** Somewhat elliptical; less than twice as long as broad.

**Ovate** Egg-shaped in outline- broadest below the middle.

**Ovoid** An egg-shaped solid.

**Palmate** [leaf or veins] Compound, with leaflets originating at the same point on a common stalk. Veins originating at a common point at base of leaf blade.

**Petiole** [leaf] The stalk that supports the leaf blade.

**Pinnate** [leaf or vein] Compound, with leaflets along a common rachis or stalk. Veins originating along a common mid-vein.

**Pistillate** Containing female portions of flowers, or the pistils.

**Pith** The central, soft part of the stem.

**Raceme** Numerous stalked flowers or fruit along a common axis.

***Rachis*** The common stalk in a compound leaf to which the leaflets are attached.

***Ranked*** [leaves] Arranged in rows or files.

***Samara*** A winged fruit, e.g. ash, maple.

***Scales*** [bud] Small, modified leaves on the outer surface of buds.

***Scales*** [cone] The basic structures that enclose the seeds.

***Scale-like*** [leaf] Small, generally overlapping, triangular-shaped leaves of some conifers.

***Seed*** That part of the fruit capable of germinating and producing a new plant.

***Serrate*** [leaf] Margins with a saw-tooth outline. Doubly serrate, with small teeth on the larger teeth.

***Shrub*** A woody, many-stemmed plant, usually under 15 feet in height at maturity, which branches from its base.

***Simple*** [leaf] A single leaf composed of a single blade. Not compound.

***Smooth*** Without hairs, glands, or any roughness.

***Softwood*** - Term used to describe all needle-leaved trees.

These species are typically evergreen, retaining their leaves through two or more growing seasons. Larches, including tamarack, are exceptions, being deciduous "softwoods."

***Solid*** [pith] Without cavities or sections separated by discs.

***Spur*** A short, extremely slow-growing, woody twig projection.

***Staminate*** Containing male portions of flowers, or the stamens.

***Stipule*** A tiny, leafy, sometimes spiny projection arising at the base of a petiole.

***Stone*** The "bony" or stoney pit of drupes.

***Toothed*** [leaf] With moderate projections along the margin.

***Tree*** A woody plant, generally single-stemmed, that reaches a height of more than 15 feet at maturity.

***Umbel*** A group of flowers or fruit whose stalks have a common point of attachment.

***Unequal*** [leaf base] Base parts of blade on either side of midrib are uneven.

***Valve-like*** [bud scales] Meet at their margins and do not overlap.

***Wavy*** [leaf margin] Undulating but smooth; not toothed nor lobed.

***Whorl*** [leaves or branches] More than two originating at the same level on a common axis.